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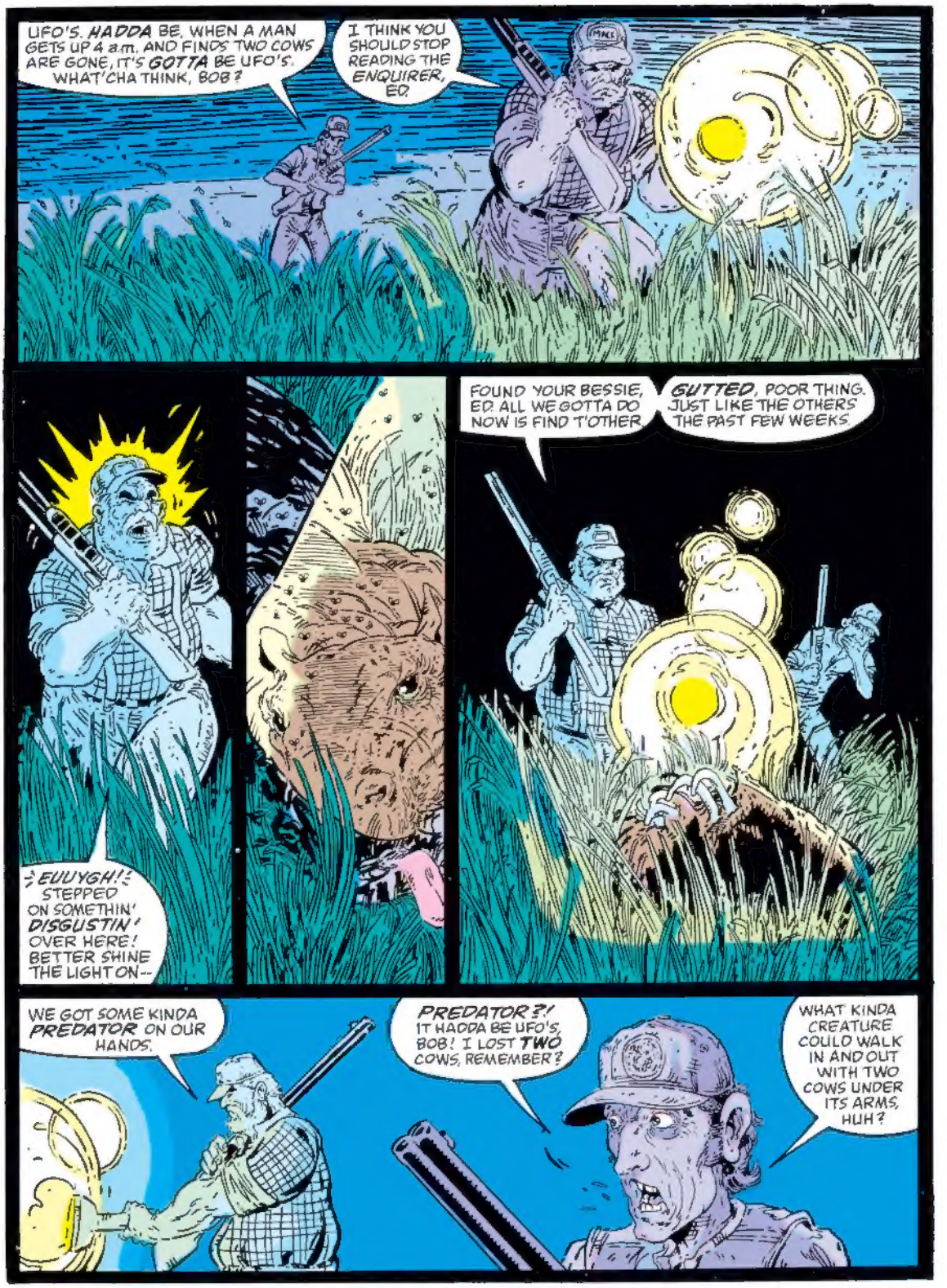
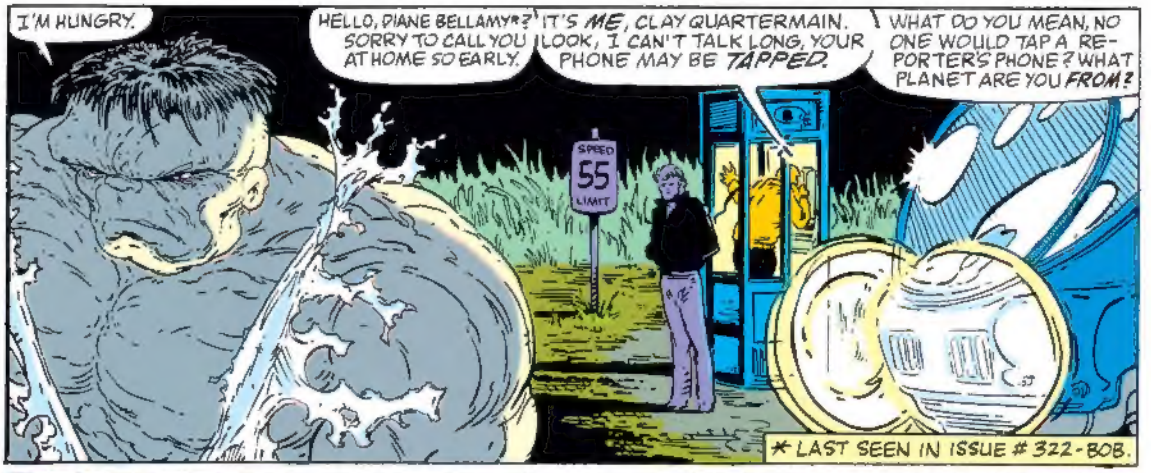
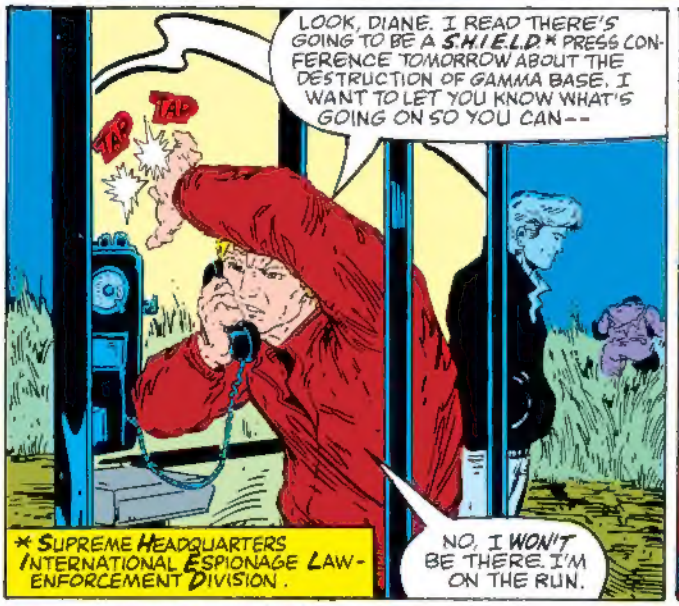
AUTHORITY

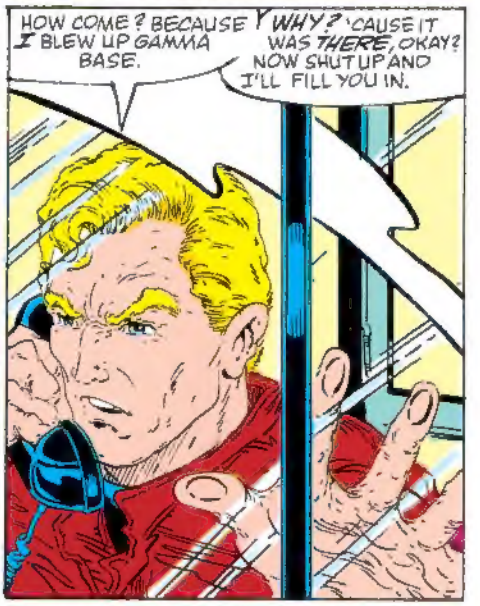
# THE INCREDIBLE HULK

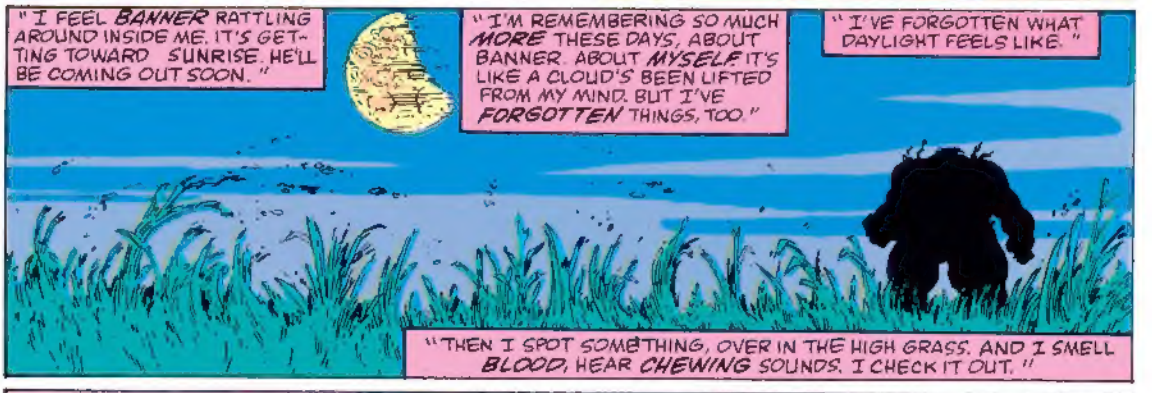
Todd McFarlane


UFO'S. HADDA BE. WHEN A MAN GETS UP 4 a.m. AND FINDS TWO COWS ARE GONE, IT'S GOTTA BE UFO'S. WHAT'CHA THINK, BOB?
I THINK YOU SHOULD STOP READING THE ENQUIRER, ED.
EUUYGH!! STEPPED ON SOMETHIN' DISGUSTIN' OVER HERE! BETTER SHINE THE LIGHT ON--
FOUND YOUR BESSIE, ED. ALL WE GOTTA DO NOW IS FIND T'OTHER
GUTTED, POOR THING. JUST LIKE THE OTHERS THE PAST FEW WEEKS
WE GOT SOME KINDA PREDATOR ON OUR HANDS.
PREDATOR?! IT HADDA BE UFO'S, BOB! I LOST TWO COWS, REMEMBER?
WHAT KINDA CREATURE COULD WALK IN AND OUT WITH TWO COWS UNDER ITS ARMS, HUH?

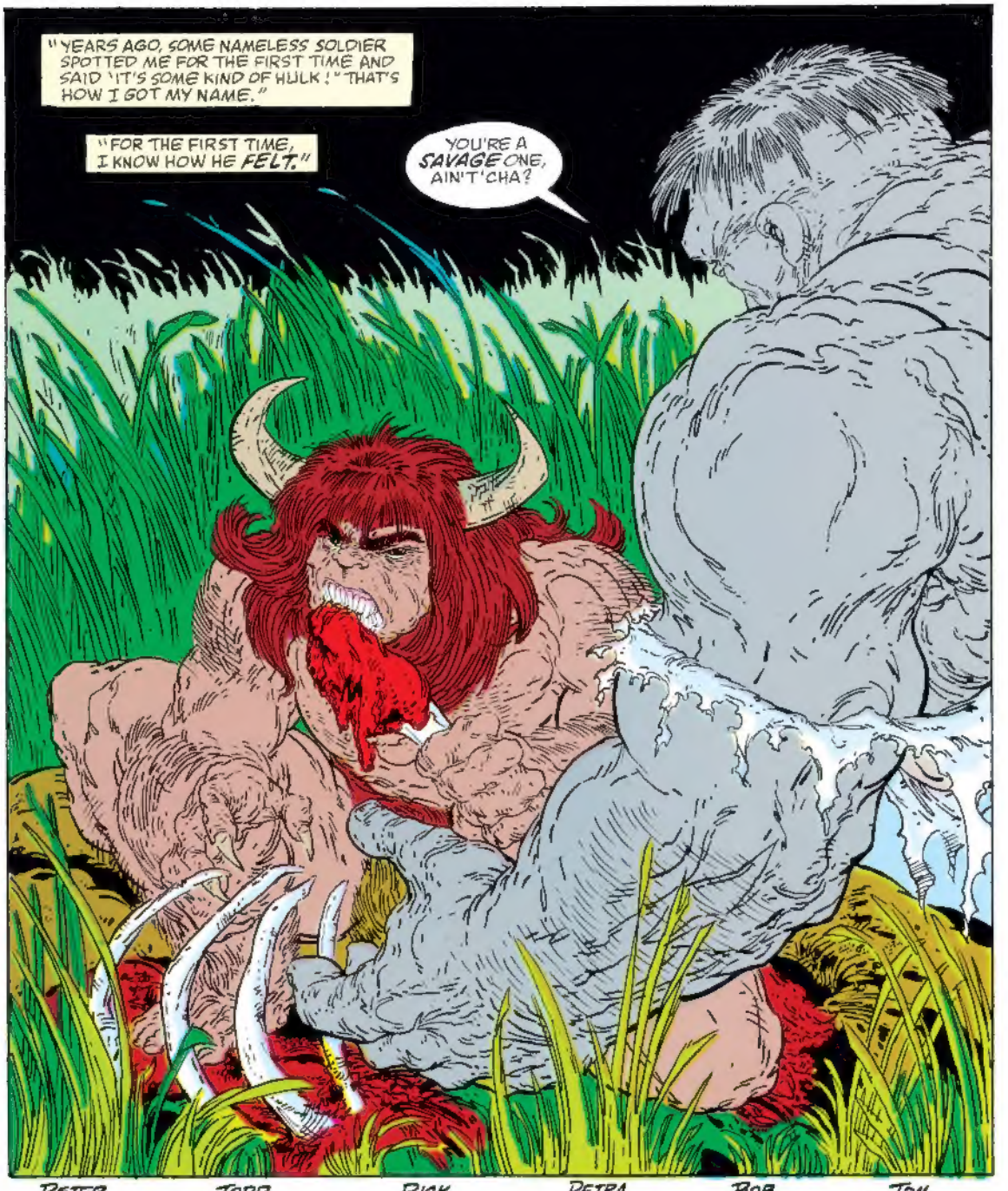

I'M HUNGRY.
HELLO, DIANE BELLAMY*? SORRY TO CALL YOU AT HOME SO EARLY.
IT'S ME, CLAY QUARTERMAIN. LOOK, I CAN'T TALK LONG, YOUR PHONE MAY BE TAPPED.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NO ONE WOULD TAP A REPORTER'S PHONE? WHAT PLANET ARE YOU FROM?
SPEED 55 LIMIT
* LAST SEEN IN ISSUE # 322 - BOB.


LOOK, DIANE. I READ THERE'S GOING TO BE A S.H.I.E.L.D.* PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF GAMMA BASE. I WANT TO LET YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON SO YOU CAN--
TAP TAP
* SUPREME HEADQUARTERS INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION.
NO. I WON'T BE THERE. I'M ON THE RUN.


HOW COME? BECAUSE I BLEW UP GAMMA BASE.
WHY? 'CAUSE IT WAS THERE, OKAY? NOW SHUT UP AND I'LL FILL YOU IN.


"I FEEL BANNER RATTLING AROUND INSIDE ME. IT'S GETTING TOWARD SUNRISE. HE'LL BE COMING OUT SOON."
"I'M REMEMBERING SO MUCH MORE THESE DAYS, ABOUT BANNER. ABOUT MYSELF. IT'S LIKE A CLOUD'S BEEN LIFTED FROM MY MIND. BUT I'VE FORGOTTEN THINGS, TOO."
"I'VE FORGOTTEN WHAT DAYLIGHT FEELS LIKE."
"THEN I SPOT SOMETHING, OVER IN THE HIGH GRASS. AND I SMELL BLOOD, HEAR CHEWING SOUNDS. I CHECK IT OUT."

"AND WHAT I SEE MAKES ME WHISPER A WORD THAT CERTAINLY DOESN'T DESCRIBE THE SCENE."
HOLY...


"YEARS AGO, SOME NAMELESS SOLDIER SPOTTED ME FOR THE FIRST TIME AND SAID 'IT'S SOME KIND OF HULK!' THAT'S HOW I GOT MY NAME."
"FOR THE FIRST TIME, I KNOW HOW HE FELT."
YOU'RE A SAVAGE ONE, AIN'T'CHA?

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EDITOR

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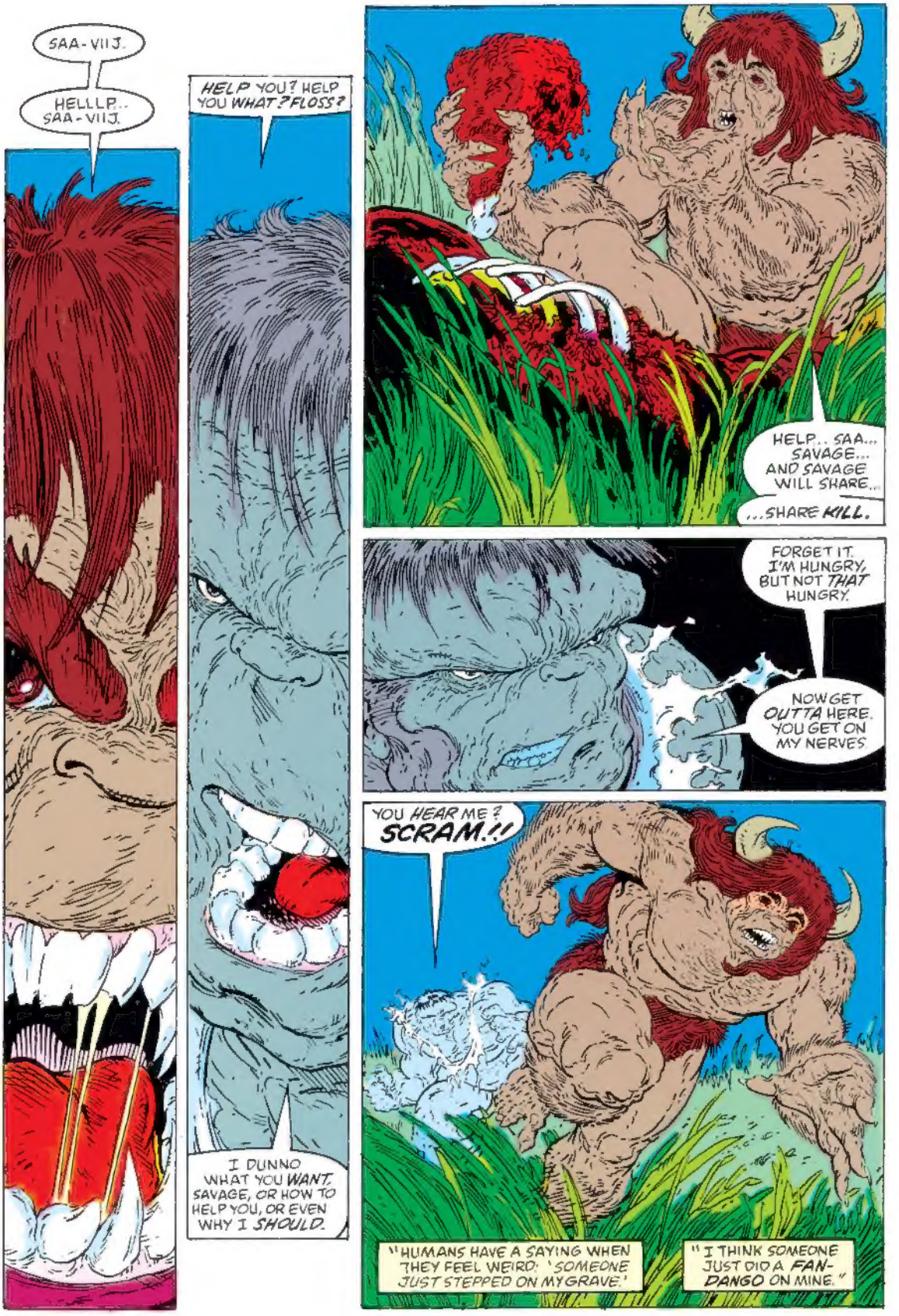
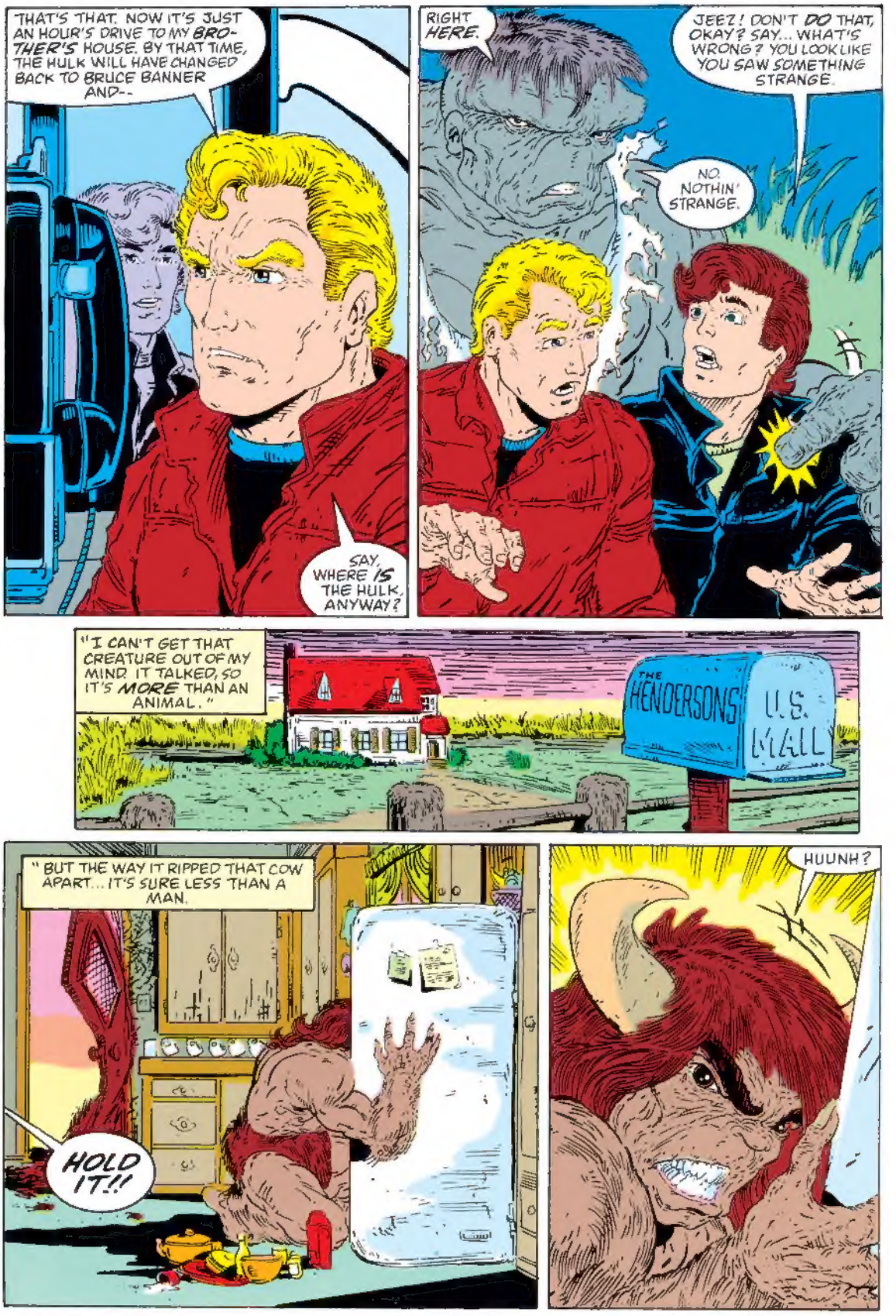
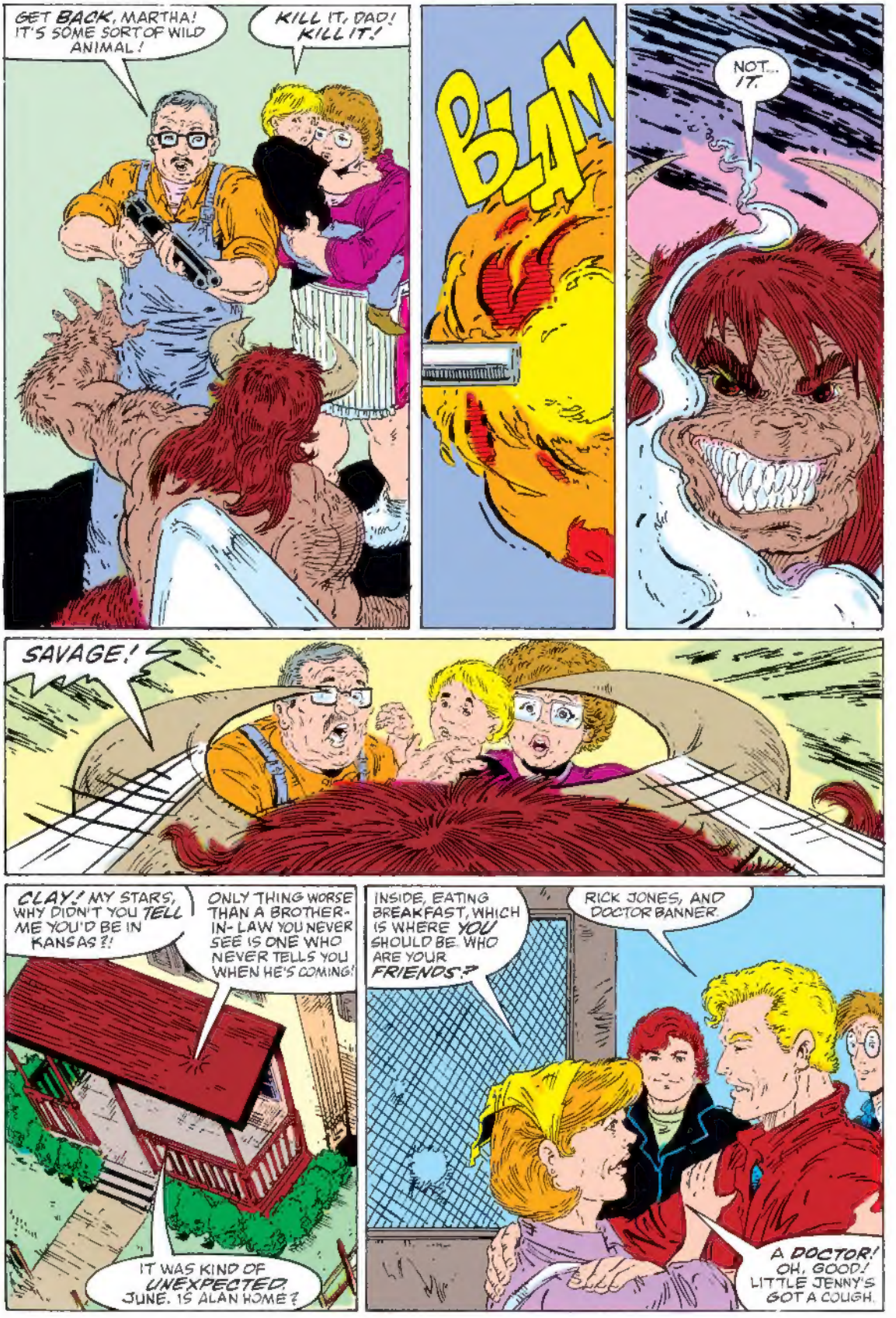
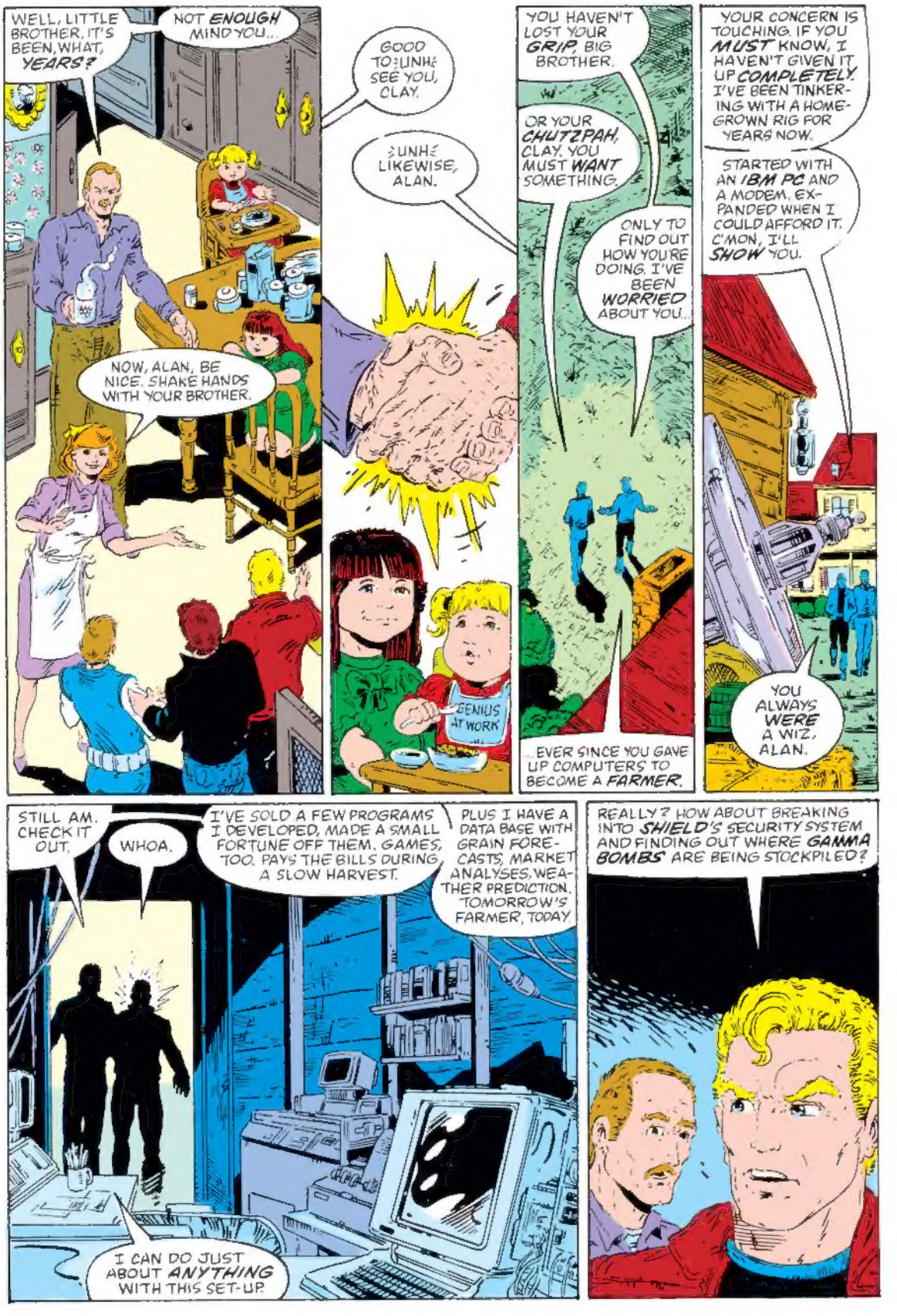
# THE SAVAGE BULL DOTH BEAR THE YOKE!


SAA-VIIJ.
HELLLP... SAA-VIIJ.
HELP YOU? HELP YOU WHAT? FLOSS?
I DUNNO WHAT YOU WANT, SAVAGE, OR HOW TO HELP YOU, OR EVEN WHY I SHOULD.
HELP... SAA... SAVAGE... AND SAVAGE WILL SHARE...
...SHARE KILL.
FORGET IT. I'M HUNGRY, BUT NOT THAT HUNGRY.
NOW GET OUTTA HERE. YOU GET ON MY NERVES
YOU HEAR ME? SCRAM.!!
"HUMANS HAVE A SAYING WHEN THEY FEEL WEIRD: 'SOMEONE JUST STEPPED ON MY GRAVE.'
"I THINK SOMEONE JUST DID A FAN-DANGO ON MINE."

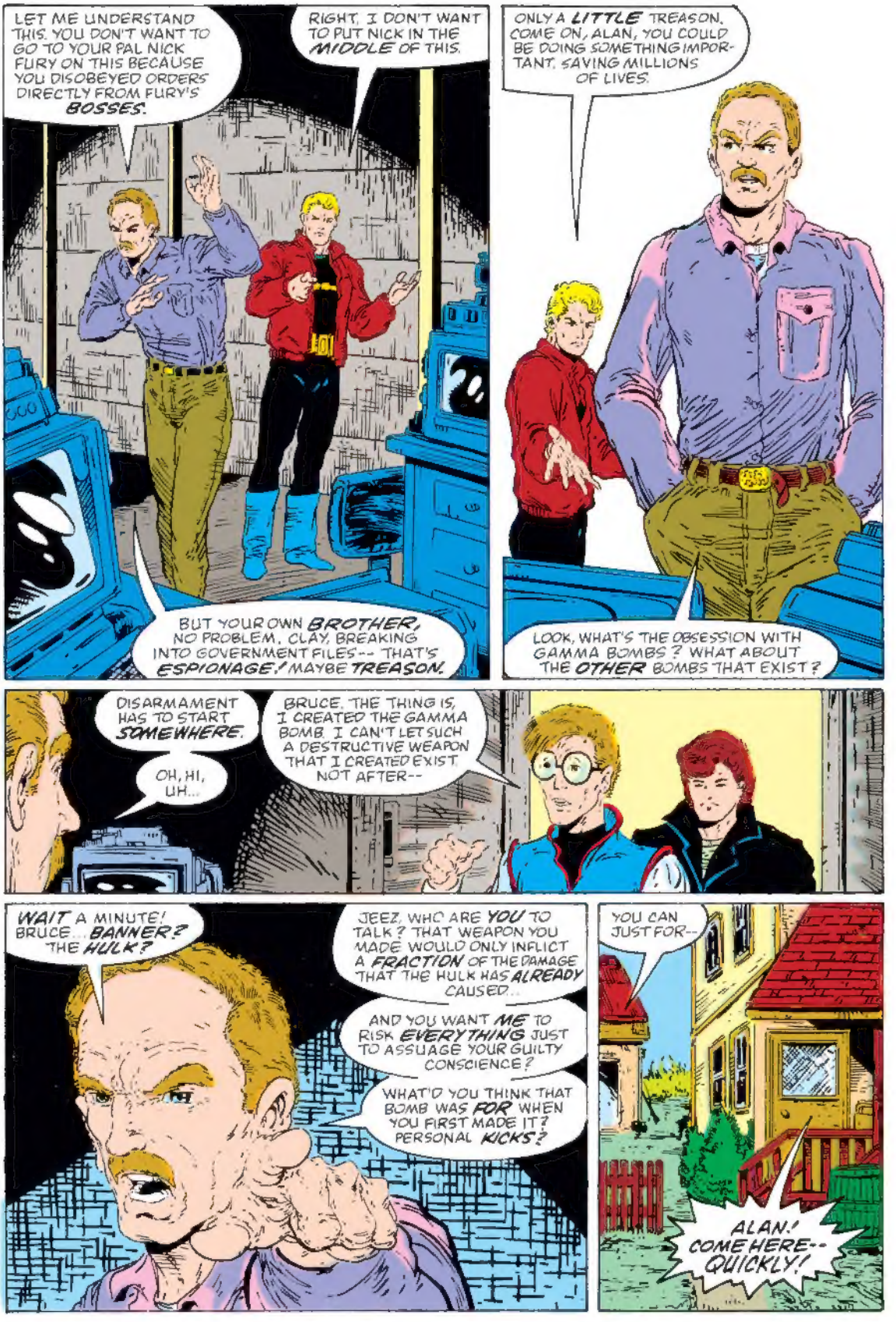

THAT'S THAT. NOW IT'S JUST AN HOUR'S DRIVE TO MY BROTHER'S HOUSE. BY THAT TIME, THE HULK WILL HAVE CHANGED BACK TO BRUCE BANNER AND--
SAY, WHERE IS THE HULK, ANYWAY?
RIGHT HERE.
JEEZ! DON'T DO THAT, OKAY? SAY... WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU SAW SOMETHING STRANGE.
NO. NOTHIN' STRANGE.
"I CAN'T GET THAT CREATURE OUT OF MY MIND. IT TALKED, SO IT'S MORE THAN AN ANIMAL."
THE HENDERSONS
U.S. MAIL
"BUT THE WAY IT RIPPED THAT COW APART... IT'S SURE LESS THAN A MAN.
HOLD IT!!
HUUNH?

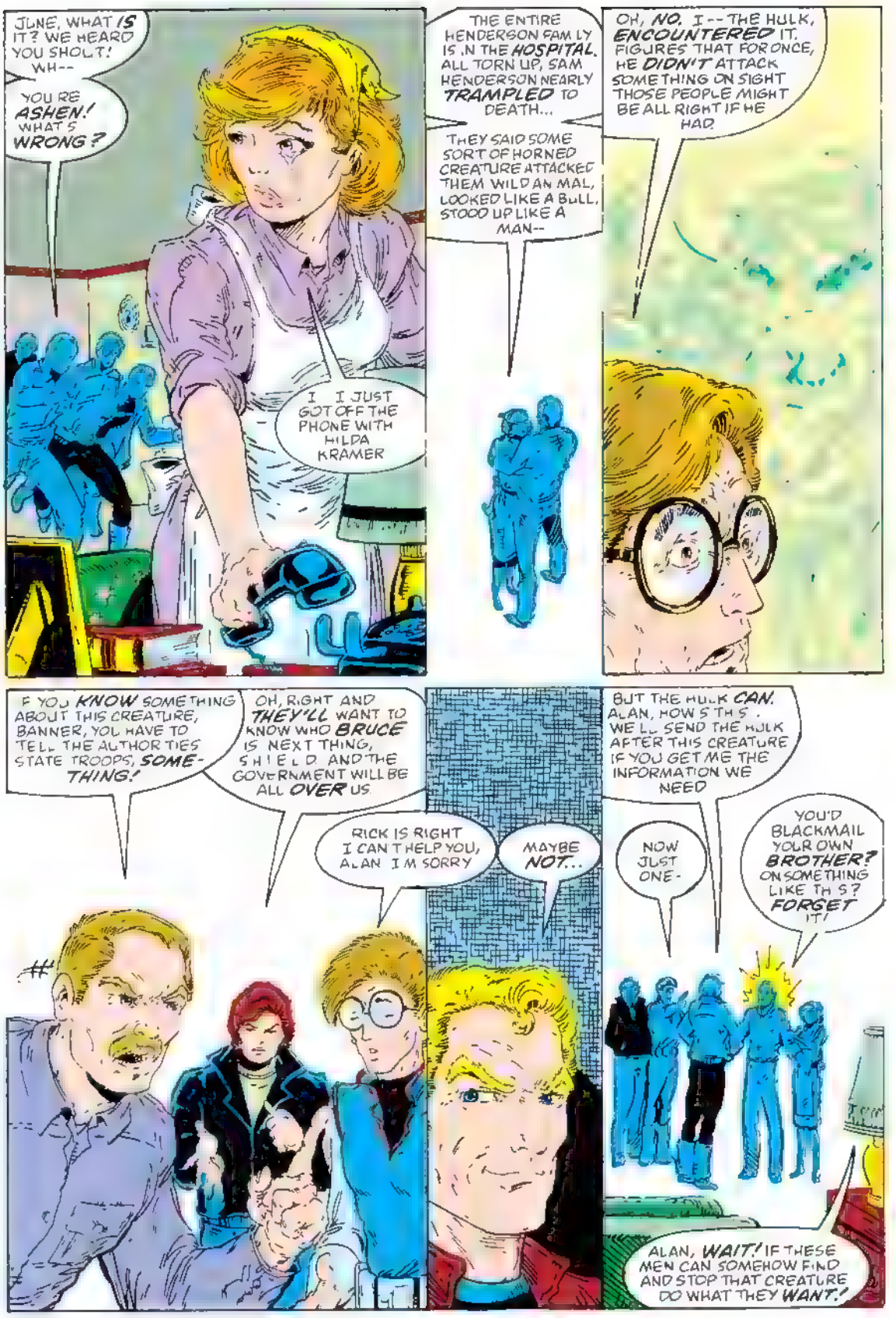

GET BACK, MARTHA! IT'S SOME SORT OF WILD ANIMAL!
KILL IT, DAD! KILL IT!
BLAM
NOT... IT.
SAVAGE!
CLAY! MY STARS, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU'D BE IN KANSAS?!
ONLY THING WORSE THAN A BROTHER-IN-LAW YOU NEVER SEE IS ONE WHO NEVER TELLS YOU WHEN HE'S COMING!
IT WAS KIND OF UNEXPECTED. JUNE. IS ALAN HOME?
INSIDE, EATING BREAKFAST, WHICH IS WHERE YOU SHOULD BE. WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS?
RICK JONES, AND DOCTOR BANNER.
A DOCTOR! OH, GOOD! LITTLE JENNY'S GOT A COUGH.

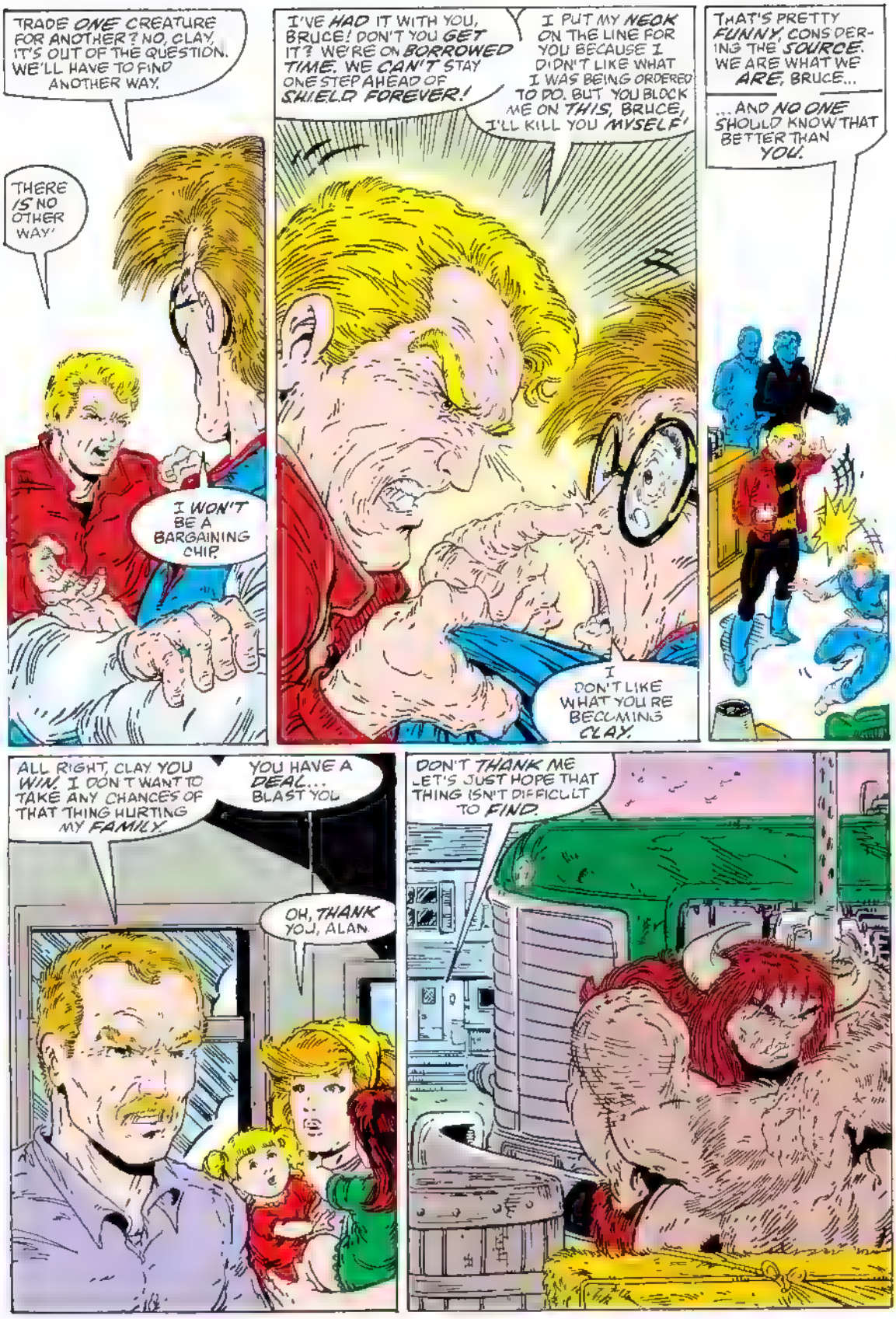

WELL, LITTLE BROTHER, IT'S BEEN, WHAT, YEARS?
NOT ENOUGH MIND YOU...
NOW, ALAN, BE NICE. SHAKE HANDS WITH YOUR BROTHER.
GOOD TO UNH SEE YOU, CLAY.
UNH LIKEWISE, ALAN.
GENIUS AT WORK
YOU HAVEN'T LOST YOUR GRIP, BIG BROTHER.
OR YOUR CHUTZPAH, CLAY. YOU MUST WANT SOMETHING.
ONLY TO FIND OUT HOW YOU'RE DOING. I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT YOU...
EVER SINCE YOU GAVE UP COMPUTERS TO BECOME A FARMER.
YOUR CONCERN IS TOUCHING. IF YOU MUST KNOW, I HAVEN'T GIVEN IT UP COMPLETELY. I'VE BEEN TINKERING WITH A HOMEGROWN RIG FOR YEARS NOW.
STARTED WITH AN IBM PC AND A MODEM. EXPANDED WHEN I COULD AFFORD IT. C'MON, I'LL SHOW YOU.
YOU ALWAYS WERE A WIZ, ALAN.
STILL AM. CHECK IT OUT.
WHOA.
I'VE SOLD A FEW PROGRAMS I DEVELOPED, MADE A SMALL FORTUNE OFF THEM. GAMES, TOO. PAYS THE BILLS DURING A SLOW HARVEST.
PLUS I HAVE A DATA BASE WITH GRAIN FORECASTS, MARKET ANALYSES, WEATHER PREDICTION. TOMORROW'S FARMER, TODAY.
I CAN DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING WITH THIS SET-UP.
REALLY? HOW ABOUT BREAKING INTO SHIELD'S SECURITY SYSTEM AND FINDING OUT WHERE GAMMA BOMBS ARE BEING STOCKPILED?

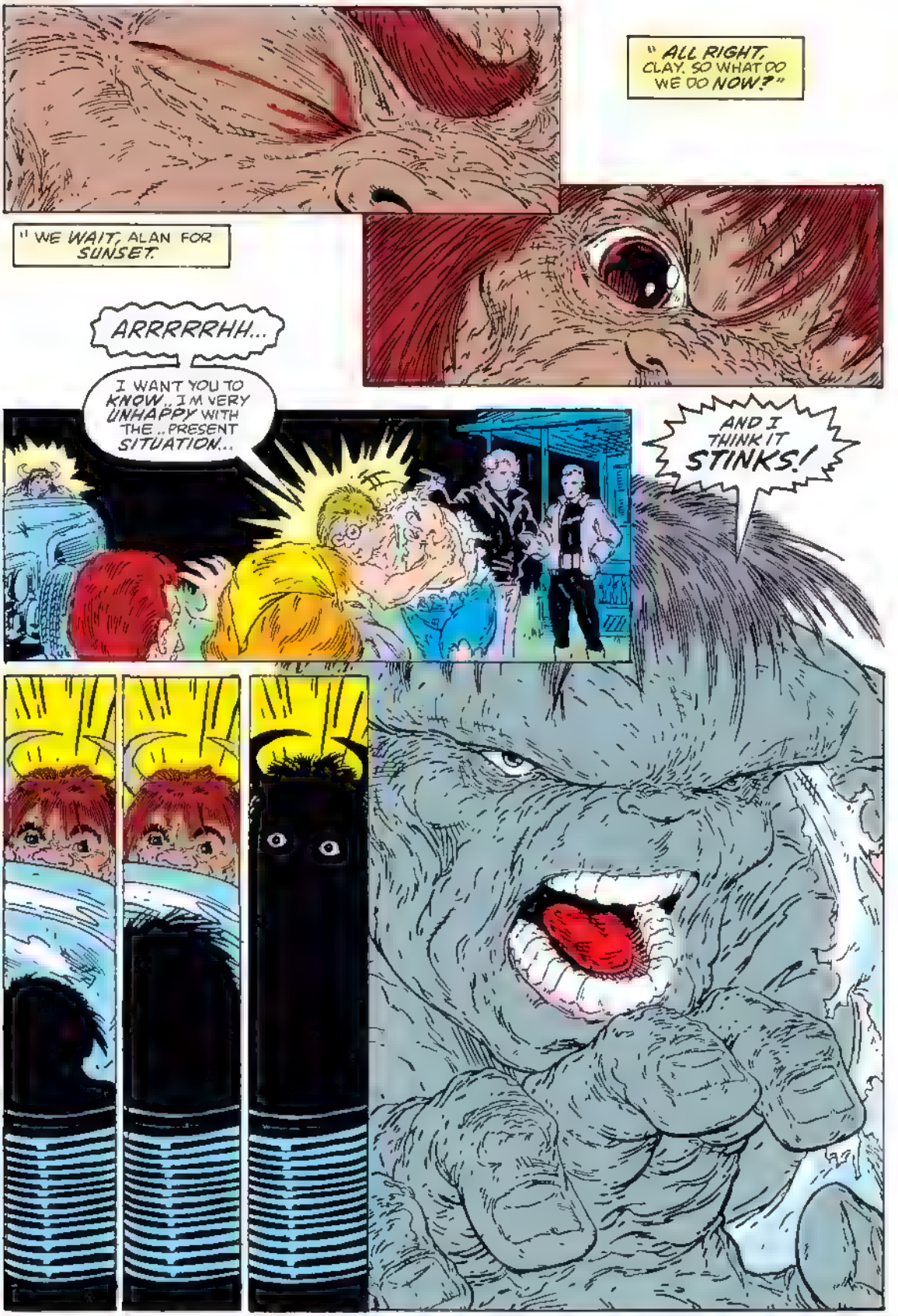
C'MON, LAROQUETTE, SAUNDERS... LET'S GET THIS PRESS CONFERENCE OVER WITH.
RIGHT BEHIND YOU, TRUMP.
YEAH, TRUMP. ROCK AND I WILL JUST FOLLOW YOUR LEAD.
EXCUSE ME, PARDON ME, JUST REMEMBERED AN APPOINTMENT.
HEY! WATCH WHO YOU'RE SHOVING!
I AM.

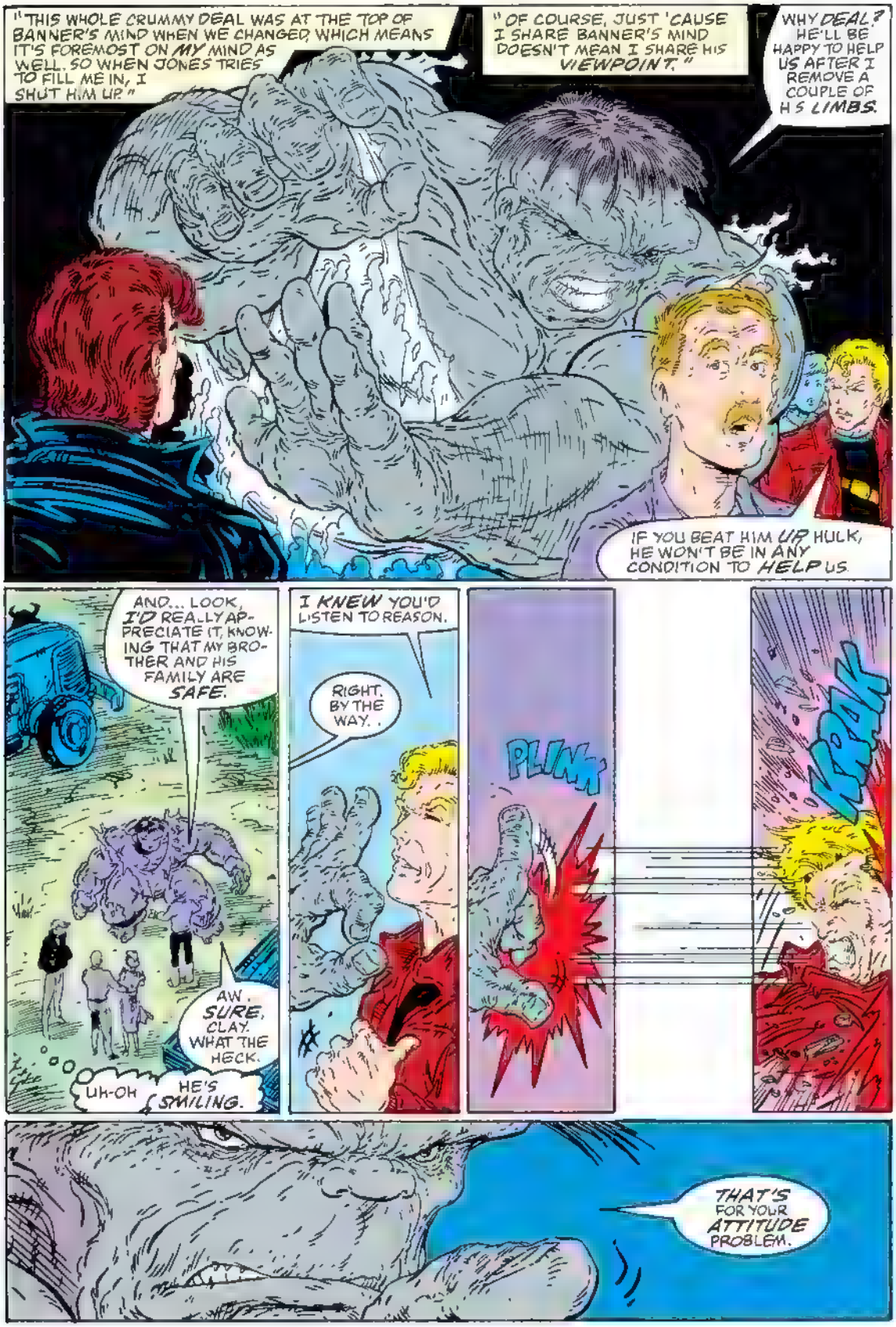
AGENT TRUMP, I'M DIANE BELLAMY OF KQSR. IS IT TRUE THAT GAMMA BASE WAS BLOWN UP BY CLAY QUARTERMAIN, A S.H.I.E.L.D. OPERATIVE, WHO IS NOW A FUGITIVE?
WHAT? I MEAN, LET'S WAIT FOR THE PRESS CONFERENCE. OKAY, MISS?
ISN'T IT TRUE THAT QUARTERMAIN WAS CONCERNED THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS BUILDING GAMMA BOMBS? A CONCERN SHARED BY BRUCE BANNER, THE BOMBS' INVENTOR?
WASN'T S.H.I.E.L.D INVOLVED IN A COVER-UP RATHER THAN LET THIS BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE?
NOW JUST ONE--
WHAT ABOUT IT, TRUMP?
IS IT TRUE?
WHAT DOES NICK FURY THINK?

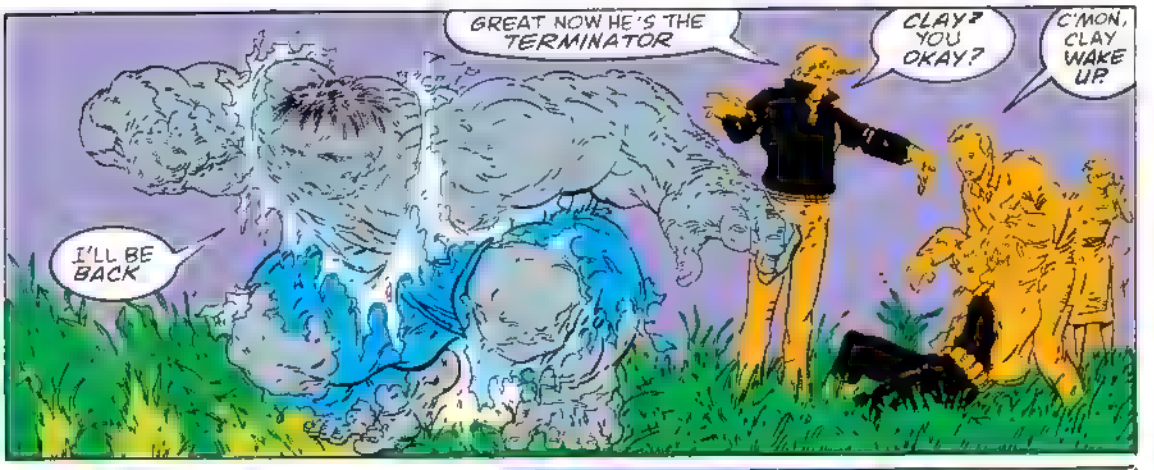

LET ME UNDERSTAND THIS. YOU DON'T WANT TO GO TO YOUR PAL NICK FURY ON THIS BECAUSE YOU DISOBEYED ORDERS DIRECTLY FROM FURY'S BOSSES.
RIGHT. I DON'T WANT TO PUT NICK IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS.
BUT YOUR OWN BROTHER, NO PROBLEM. CLAY, BREAKING INTO GOVERNMENT FILES-- THAT'S ESPIONAGE! MAYBE TREASON.
ONLY A LITTLE TREASON. COME ON, ALAN, YOU COULD BE DOING SOMETHING IMPORTANT. SAVING MILLIONS OF LIVES.
LOOK, WHAT'S THE OBSESSION WITH GAMMA BOMBS? WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER BOMBS THAT EXIST?
DISARMAMENT HAS TO START SOMEWHERE.
OH, HI, UH...
BRUCE. THE THING IS, I CREATED THE GAMMA BOMB. I CAN'T LET SUCH A DESTRUCTIVE WEAPON THAT I CREATED EXIST. NOT AFTER--
WAIT A MINUTE! BRUCE... BANNER? THE HULK?
JEEZ, WHO ARE YOU TO TALK? THAT WEAPON YOU MADE WOULD ONLY INFLICT A FRACTION OF THE DAMAGE THAT THE HULK HAS ALREADY CAUSED...
AND YOU WANT ME TO RISK EVERYTHING JUST TO ASSUAGE YOUR GUILTY CONSCIENCE?
WHAT'D YOU THINK THAT BOMB WAS FOR WHEN YOU FIRST MADE IT? PERSONAL KICKS?
YOU CAN JUST FOR--
ALAN! COME HERE-- QUICKLY!


JUNE, WHAT IS IT? WE HEARD YOU SHOUT! WH--
YOU'RE ASHEN! WHAT'S WRONG?
I... I JUST GOT OFF THE PHONE WITH HILDA KRAMER
THE ENTIRE HENDERSON FAMILY IS IN THE HOSPITAL. ALL TORN UP, SAM HENDERSON NEARLY TRAMPLED TO DEATH...
THEY SAID SOME SORT OF HORNED CREATURE ATTACKED THEM WILD AN MAL, LOOKED LIKE A BULL, STOOD UP LIKE A MAN--
OH, NO. I -- THE HULK, ENCOUNTERED IT. FIGURES THAT FOR ONCE, HE DIDN'T ATTACK SOMETHING ON SIGHT THOSE PEOPLE MIGHT BE ALL RIGHT IF HE HAD.
IF YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THIS CREATURE, BANNER, YOU HAVE TO TELL THE AUTHORITIES STATE TROOPS, SOMETHING!
OH, RIGHT AND THEY'LL WANT TO KNOW WHO BRUCE IS NEXT THING, S.H.I.E.L.D. AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ALL OVER US
RICK IS RIGHT I CAN'T HELP YOU, ALAN I'M SORRY
MAYBE NOT...
BUT THE HULK CAN, ALAN, HOW'S THIS. WE'LL SEND THE HULK AFTER THIS CREATURE IF YOU GET ME THE INFORMATION WE NEED
NOW JUST ONE-
YOU'D BLACKMAIL YOUR OWN BROTHER? ON SOMETHING LIKE THIS? FORGET IT!
ALAN, WAIT! IF THESE MEN CAN SOMEHOW FIND AND STOP THAT CREATURE DO WHAT THEY WANT!

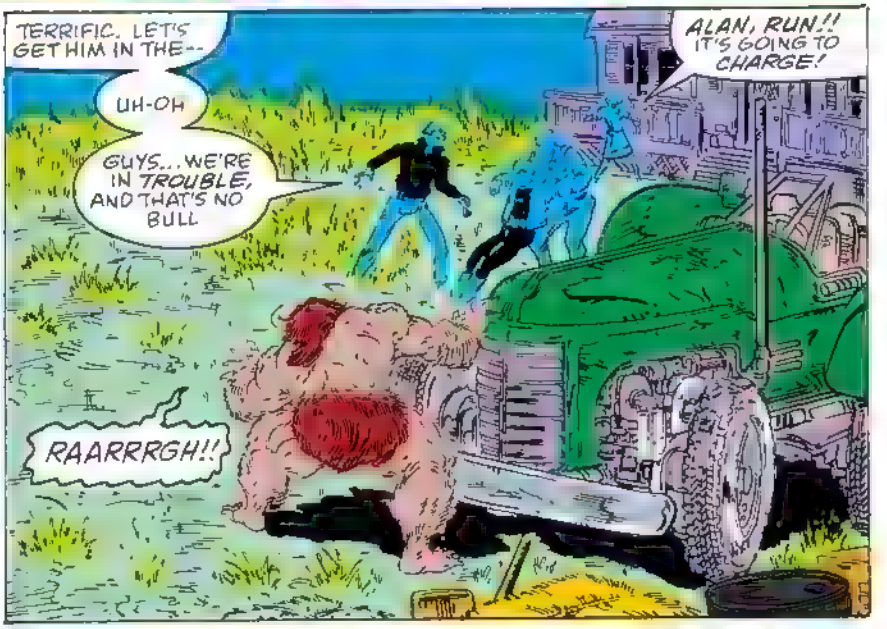

TRADE ONE CREATURE FOR ANOTHER? NO, CLAY, IT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION. WE'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER WAY.
THERE IS NO OTHER WAY!
I WON'T BE A BARGAINING CHIP.
I'VE HAD IT WITH YOU, BRUCE! DON'T YOU GET IT? WE'RE ON BORROWED TIME. WE CAN'T STAY ONE STEP AHEAD OF S.H.I.E.L.D. FOREVER!
I PUT MY NECK ON THE LINE FOR YOU BECAUSE I DIDN'T LIKE WHAT I WAS BEING ORDERED TO DO. BUT YOU BLOCK ME ON THIS, BRUCE, I'LL KILL YOU MYSELF!
I DON'T LIKE WHAT YOU'RE BECOMING CLAY.
THAT'S PRETTY FUNNY, CONSIDERING THE SOURCE. WE ARE WHAT WE ARE, BRUCE...
...AND NO ONE SHOULD KNOW THAT BETTER THAN YOU.
ALL RIGHT, CLAY YOU WIN. I DON'T WANT TO TAKE ANY CHANCES OF THAT THING HURTING MY FAMILY.
YOU HAVE A DEAL... BLAST YOU.
OH, THANK YOU, ALAN.
DON'T THANK ME -LET'S JUST HOPE THAT THING ISN'T DIFFICULT TO FIND.

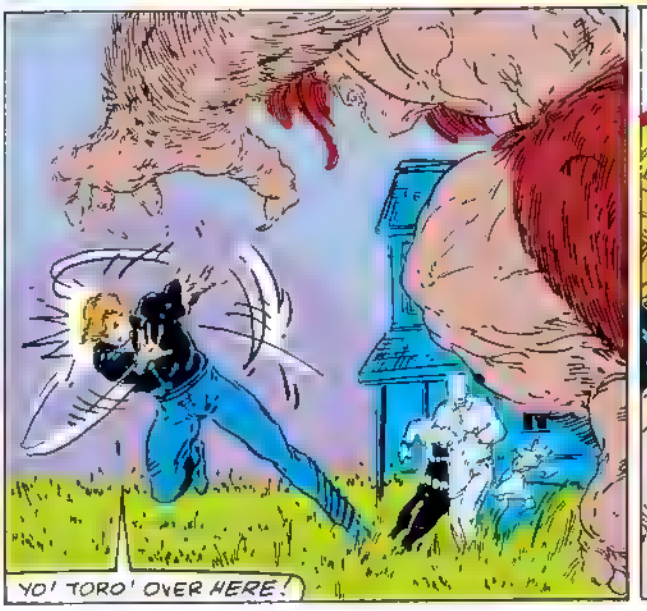

" ALL RIGHT, CLAY. SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW?"
" WE WAIT, ALAN FOR SUNSET.
ARRRRRHH...
I WANT YOU TO KNOW.. I'M VERY UNHAPPY WITH THE ..PRESENT SITUATION...
AND I THINK IT STINKS!


"THIS WHOLE CRUMMY DEAL WAS AT THE TOP OF BANNER'S MIND WHEN WE CHANGED, WHICH MEANS IT'S FOREMOST ON MY MIND AS WELL. SO WHEN JONES TRIES TO FILL ME IN, I SHUT HIM UP."
"OF COURSE, JUST 'CAUSE I SHARE BANNER'S MIND DOESN'T MEAN I SHARE HIS VIEWPOINT."
WHY DEAL? HE'LL BE HAPPY TO HELP US AFTER I REMOVE A COUPLE OF HIS LIMBS.
IF YOU BEAT HIM UP HULK, HE WON'T BE IN ANY CONDITION TO HELP US.
AND... LOOK, I'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT, KNOWING THAT MY BROTHER AND HIS FAMILY ARE SAFE.
AW, SURE, CLAY. WHAT THE HECK.
UH-OH
HE'S SMILING.
I KNEW YOU'D LISTEN TO REASON.
RIGHT. BY THE WAY. .
PLINK
KRAK
THAT'S FOR YOUR ATTITUDE PROBLEM.

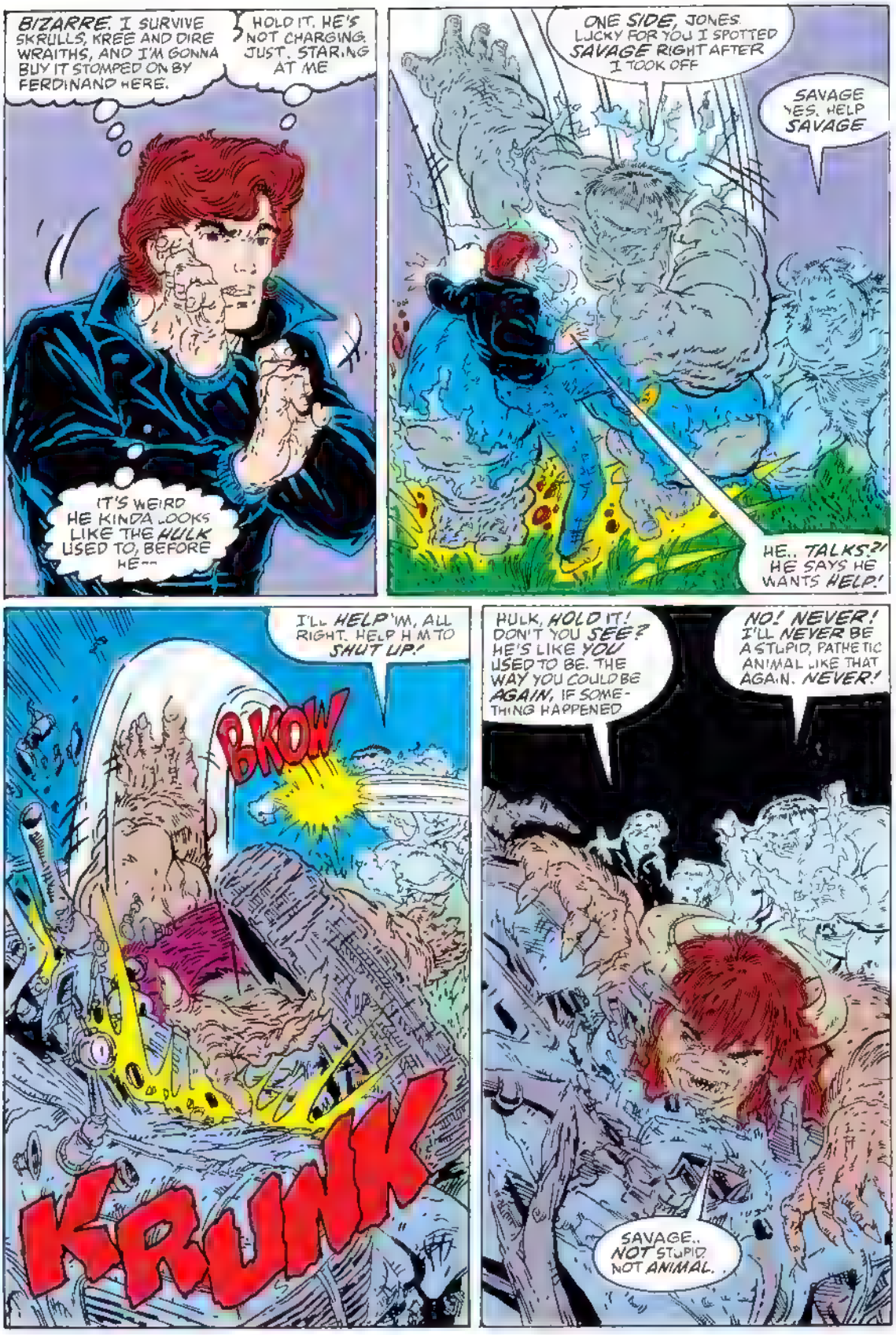

GREAT NOW HE'S THE TERMINATOR
CLAY? YOU OKAY?
C'MON, CLAY WAKE UP.
I'LL BE BACK

BUT I DON'T WANNA GO TO SCHOOL, MA .


TERRIFIC. LET'S GET HIM IN THE--
UH-OH
GUYS.. WE'RE IN TROUBLE, AND THAT'S NO BULL
ALAN, RUN!! IT'S GOING TO CHARGE!
RAARRRGH!!

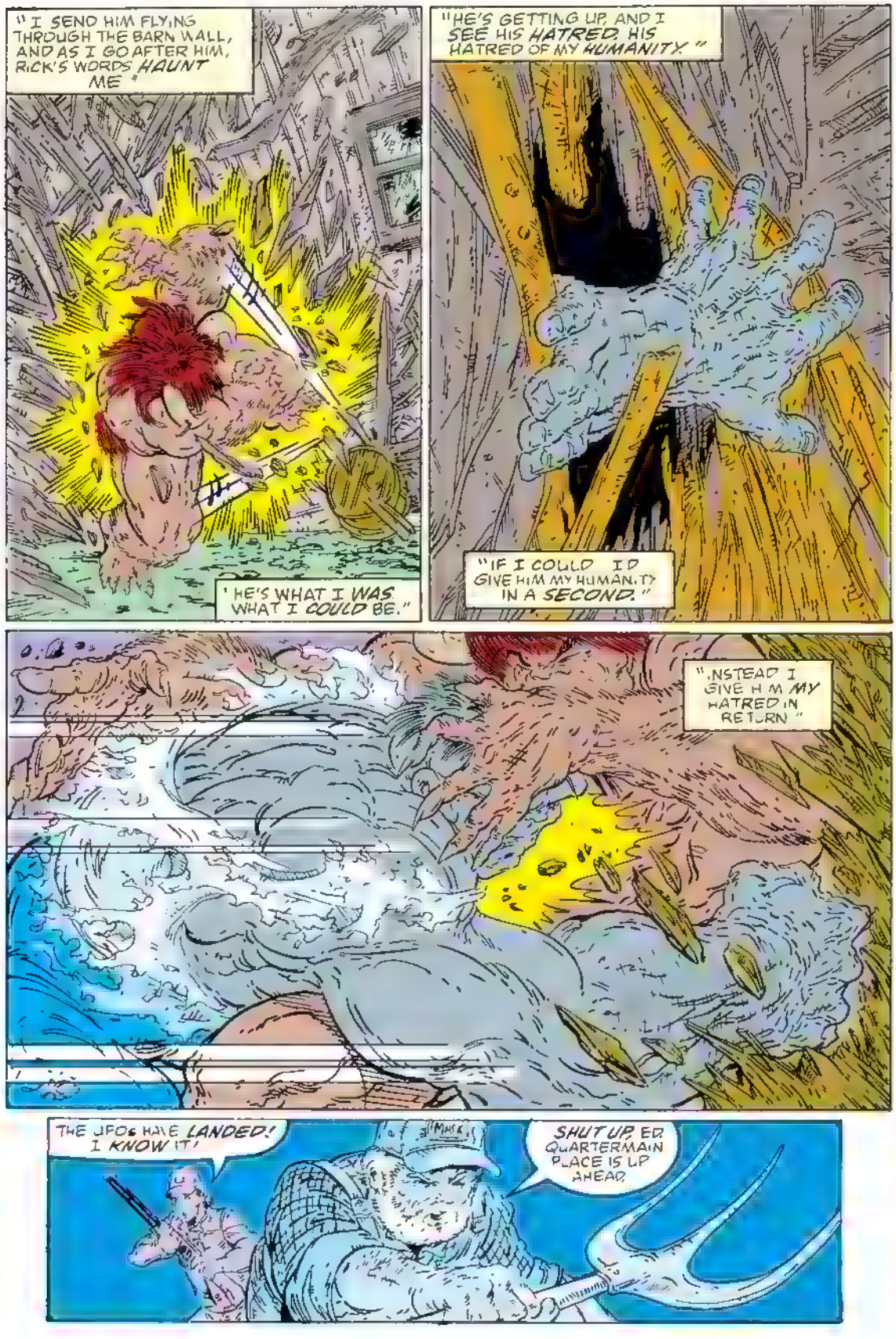

YO! TORO! OVER HERE!

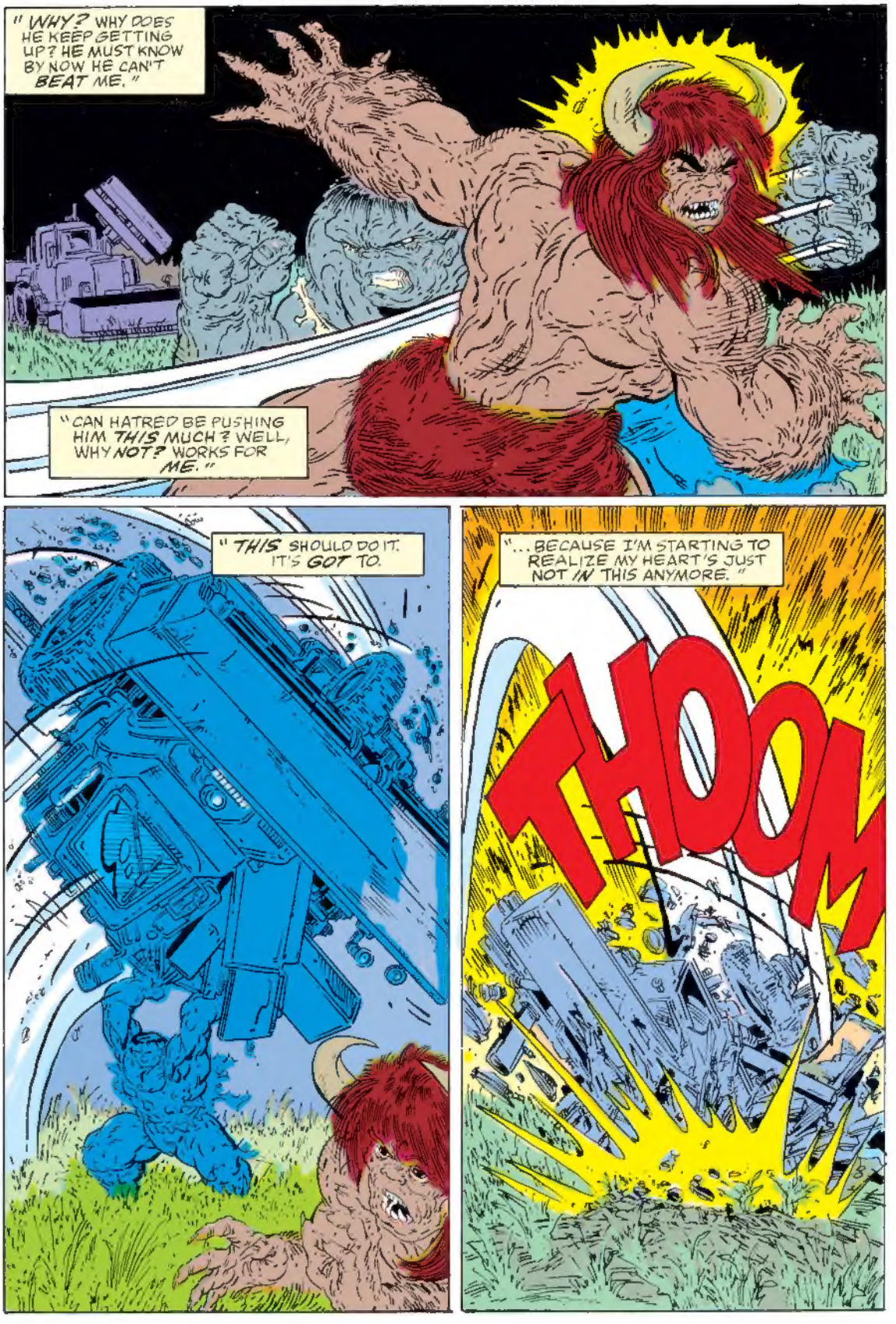
HILDA! IT'S HERE! SEND HELP, HURRY!

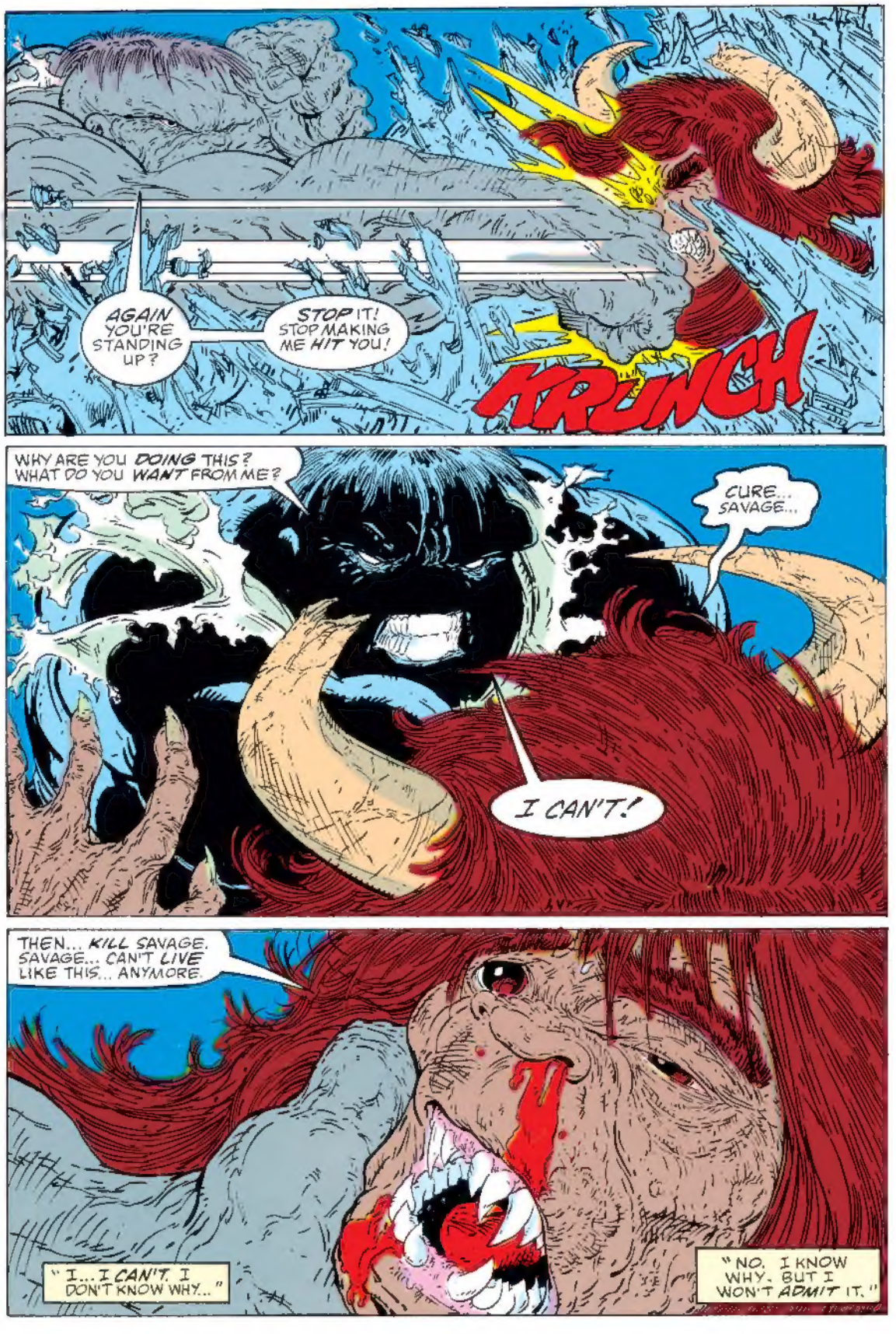

BIZARRE. I SURVIVE SKRULLS, KREE AND DIRE WRAITHS, AND I'M GONNA BUY IT STOMPED ON BY FERDINAND HERE.
HOLD IT. HE'S NOT CHARGING. JUST. STARING AT ME
IT'S WEIRD HE KINDA LOOKS LIKE THE HULK USED TO, BEFORE HE--
ONE SIDE, JONES. LUCKY FOR YOU I SPOTTED SAVAGE RIGHT AFTER I TOOK OFF
SAVAGE YES. HELP SAVAGE
HE.. TALKS?! HE SAYS HE WANTS HELP!
I'LL HELP 'IM, ALL RIGHT. HELP H M TO SHUT UP!
BKOW
KRUNK
HULK, HOLD IT! DON'T YOU SEE? HE'S LIKE YOU USED TO BE. THE WAY YOU COULD BE AGAIN, IF SOMETHING HAPPENED
NO! NEVER! I'LL NEVER BE A STUPID, PATHETIC ANIMAL LIKE THAT AGAIN. NEVER!
SAVAGE.. NOT STUPID NOT ANIMAL..

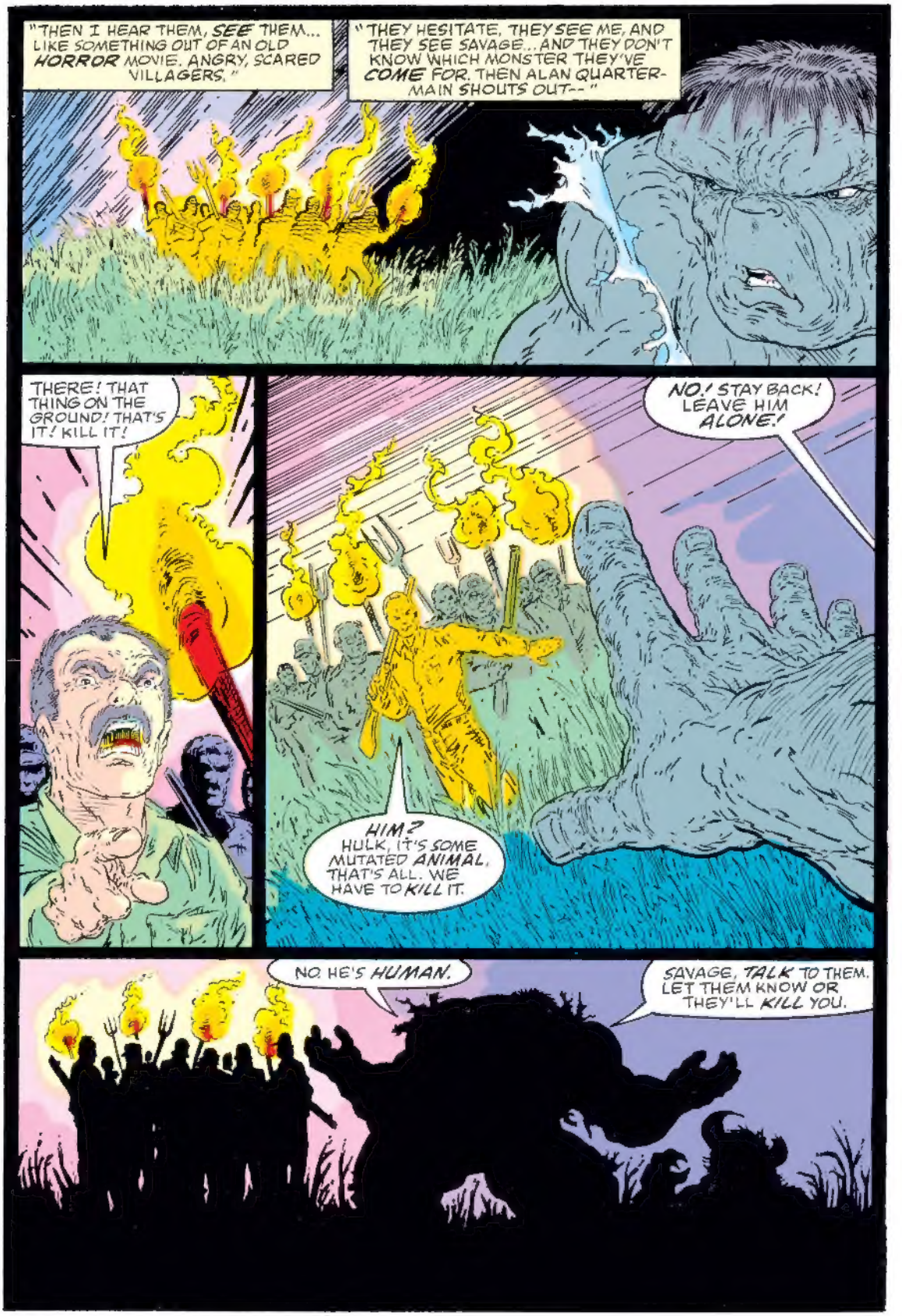
BUTHOOM
NOT ANIMAL! SAVAGE NOT ANIMAL!
SAVAGE WAS MAN. SCIENTISTS MADE SAVAGE INTO MAN-BULL.* NOW MORE ANIMAL THAN MAN. GETTING WORSE
SAW YOU BEFORE. LOOKED LIKE SAVAGE USED TO. HUMAN.
THIS BODY UNNATURAL. LIKE YOURS SHOW SAVAGE HOW TO CHANGE BACK TO HUMAN. TO REAL BODY
SHOW.. OR SAVAGE WILL KILL YOU!
* WAY BACK IN DAREDEVIL #78 808
FAT CHANCE!
BAKOW

ELSEWHERE, JUNE QUARTERMAIN'S CRY FOR AID IS HEEDED..
MAKE SAVAGE HUMAN! WANT REAL BODY BACK NOW.!!
YOU THICK-HEADED FREAK.! I WOULDN'T, EVEN IF I COULD.
I'M THE REALITY! ME! NOT BANNER THE WEAKLING.!
ME, THE INCREDIBLE HULK!
PKOW


"I SEND HIM FLYING THROUGH THE BARN WALL, AND AS I GO AFTER HIM, RICK'S WORDS HAUNT ME.
"HE'S WHAT I WAS. WHAT I COULD BE."
"HE'S GETTING UP, AND I SEE HIS HATRED. HIS HATRED OF MY HUMANITY."
"IF I COULD, I'D GIVE HIM MY HUMANITY IN A SECOND."
"INSTEAD I GIVE HIM MY HATRED IN RETURN."
THE UFOs HAVE LANDED! I KNOW IT!
SHUT UP, ED. QUARTERMAIN PLACE IS UP AHEAD.


"WHY? WHY DOES HE KEEP GETTING UP? HE MUST KNOW BY NOW HE CAN'T BEAT ME."
"CAN HATRED BE PUSHING HIM THIS MUCH? WELL, WHY NOT? WORKS FOR ME."
"THIS SHOULD DO IT. IT'S GOT TO.
"...BECAUSE I'M STARTING TO REALIZE MY HEART'S JUST NOT IN THIS ANYMORE."
THOOM


AGAIN YOU'RE STANDING UP?
STOP IT! STOP MAKING ME HIT YOU!
KRUNCH
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS? WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
CURE... SAVAGE...
I CAN'T!
THEN... KILL SAVAGE. SAVAGE... CAN'T LIVE LIKE THIS... ANYMORE
"I... I CAN'T. I DON'T KNOW WHY..."
"NO. I KNOW WHY. BUT I WON'T ADMIT IT."


"THEN I HEAR THEM, SEE THEM... LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF AN OLD HORROR MOVIE. ANGRY, SCARED VILLAGERS."
"THEY HESITATE, THEY SEE ME, AND THEY SEE SAVAGE... AND THEY DON'T KNOW WHICH MONSTER THEY'VE COME FOR. THEN ALAN QUARTERMAIN SHOUTS OUT--"
THERE! THAT THING ON THE GROUND! THAT'S IT! KILL IT!
NO! STAY BACK! LEAVE HIM ALONE!
HIM? HULK, IT'S SOME MUTATED ANIMAL, THAT'S ALL. WE HAVE TO KILL IT.
NO. HE'S HUMAN.
SAVAGE, TALK TO THEM. LET THEM KNOW OR THEY'LL KILL YOU.

I GET IT. THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, ISN'T IT?
JONES WAS WRONG. YOU'RE NOTHIN' LIKE ME, 'CAUSE I NEVER GIVE UP.
FINE. LET 'EM STICK YOUR HEAD ON A PITCHFORK. I DON'T CARE ANYMORE.
LET THEM KILL YOU!
WAIT! HOLD IT. LOOK AT ITS EYES!
IT'S... HE'S...
BUT... BUT WHAT DO WE DO NOW? HE HAS TO BE PUNISHED.
WHATEVER ELSE YOU DO DOESN'T MATTER. YOU'RE ALREADY PUNISHING HIM.
YOU'RE GOING TO LET HIM LIVE.

NEXT: **NO MORTAL FEAR!** BE THERE!